

Caneel Bay Plantation, Mill Round
Caneel Bay
St. John Island
Virgin Islands

HABS No. VI-69-B

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE (Territory) Virgin Islands	COUNTY (Island) St. John Island	TOWN OR VICINITY Caneel Bay
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Caneel Bay Plantation, Mill Round		HABS NO. VI-69-B
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Caneel Bay		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) An important remnant of an early sugar factory. The mill round, a circular, masonry platform, supported an animal-driven cane crusher, which was used to extract the juice from sugar cane. Animal-driven crushers later replaced by wind and steam-driven types		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Heavy battered rubble masonry wall, brick and cut coral limestone blocks for vaults		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Roughly circular in plan, 75' in diameter, retaining walls to the north and south increase gradually in height from zero feet to a max. of 15' on E side of the round		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Mill round pierced by three barrel vaults that penetrate from 10 to 25 feet into sub-structure of platform at the grade levels of their respective locations. One vault faces SE, other two face S-SW, most southerly one has elliptical vaulting		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The platform was paved in concrete in 1954 and furnished with a low rubble masonry parapet wall and now serves as a catchment area for rain water		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE see above		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Mill round built into the side of a hill and to the W is on the same level as the natural grade, the factory located immediately to the SW of the round		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Frederik C. Gjessing provided description, 1960		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Jack Barker, Jr., HABS		DATE August 19, 1983